International Weather and Crop Summary

August 28 - September 3, 2005

International Weather and Crop Highlights and Summaries provided by USDA/WAOB

HIGHLIGHTS

CANADA: Showers slowed early harvesting of spring grains and oilseeds on the eastern Prairies.

MEXICO: Rain boosted moisture for corn and other summer crops in southern growing areas.

EUROPE: Mostly dry, warm weather aided spring grain harvesting and summer crop development, but worsened drought on the Iberian Peninsula.

FSU-WESTERN: Showers moistened topsoils for planting the 2006 winter grain crop in northern Russia, while the sixth consecutive week of dry weather in southern Russia stressed filling summer crops and accelerated crop development.

FSU-NEW LANDS: Showers slowed early harvest activities.

SOUTH ASIA: Dryness persisted across northern growing areas, while showers in eastern and southern India maintained mostly favorable conditions for summer crop development.

AUSTRALIA: Showers benefited vegetative winter grains across much of southern Australia, while persistent dryness in Queensland further depleted moisture reserves.

SOUTHEAST ASIA: Heavy monsoon showers prevailed throughout the region, maintaining abundant moisture supplies for summer crops.

EASTERN ASIA: Typhoon Talim caused flooding in most of eastern China, likely damaging open cotton bolls.

BRAZIL: Coffee harvesting continued to make good progress.

ARGENTINA: Cool, dry weather slowed winter wheat germination and hindered early planting of summer crops.

August 2005

MONTHLY DATA FROM SELECTED FOREIGN CITIES
CLIMATE PREDICTION CENTER-NCEP-NWS-NOAA

*** DATA NOT AVAILABLE

COUNTRY	CITY	TEMPERATURE (C)						PRECIPITATION (MM)	
		AVG MAX	AVG MIN	HI MAX	LO MIN	AVG	DPART F/NRM	TOTAL	DPART F/NRM
NORWAY	OSLO	19	11	25	3	15	0.7	115	34
FINLAN	HELSINKI	20	13	26	8	16	0.9	63	-19
UKINGD	ABERDEEN	18	10	23	3	14	0.2	37	-24
	CARDIFF	22	13	27	10	17	-0.4	46	-48
	LONDON	23	13	32	10	18	-0.2	51	7
IRELAN	DUBLIN	20	11	23	6	16	0.3	27	-41
ICELAN	REYKJAVIK	13	9	17	4	11	0.5	57	-11
DENMAR	COPENHAGEN	21	13	26	9	17	-0.3	77	23
LUXEMB	LUXEMBOURG	21	12	29	8	16	-1.1	48	-17
SWITZE	ZURICH	21	13	28	9	17	-0.9	196	76
	GENEVA	24	14	30	9	19	-0.3	76	9
FRANCE	PARIS/ORLY	25	13	33	8	19	-0.9	23	-21
	STRASBOURG	23	13	30	9	18	-1	64	6
	BOURGES	25	13	34	9	19	-0.2	12	-39
	BORDEAUX	27	15	34	11	21	0.7	15	-45
	TOULOUSE	27	16	32	12	21	-0.2	72	22
	MARSEILLE	29	19	33	14	24	0.1	5	-25
SPAIN	VALLADOLID	31	14	38	9	23	1	3	-13
	MADRID	34	17	41	10	26	1	0	-12
	SEVILLE	37	21	43	18	29	1.2	0	***
PORTUG	LISBON	31	20	40	16	25	3.1	3	-2
GERMAN	HAMBURG	20	12	28	7	16	-0.9	54	-18
	BERLIN	22	13	28	9	18	-1.2	58	1
	DUSSELDORF	22	12	29	8	17	-2.2	98	41
	LEIPZIG	22	13	28	9	17	-0.7	49	-9
	DRESDEN	21	13	27	9	17	-1.4	53	-18
	STUTTGART	21	12	28	8	17	-1.8	94	31
	NURNBERG	21	11	28	6	16	-1.8	91	32
	AUGSBURG	21	11	27	5	16	-2.2	136	51
AUSTRI	VIENNA	23	14	30	9	19	-1.5	96	36
	INNSBRUCK	21	12	29	6	17	-1.2	198	81
CZECHR	PRAGUE	22	12	27	7	17	-0.9	57	-4
POLAND	WARSAW	23	13	28	6	18	0.1	28	-29
	LODZ	23	13	29	8	18	-0.4	34	-21
	KATOWICE	22	12	28	6	17	-0.9	96	22
HUNGAR	BUDAPEST	24	16	32	9	20	-0.8	170	125
YUGOSL	BELGRADE	26	17	34	10	21	-0.5	165	104
ROMANI	BUCHAREST	28	16	35	8	22	-0.2	149	94
BULGAR	SOFIA	25	15	34	8	20	0.9	192	149
ITALY	MILAN	29	19	32	14	24	0.5	65	-24
	VERONA	28	17	33	13	22	-0.9	66	-22
	VENICE	26	17	31	12	21	-1.5	42	-25
	GENOA	27	21	33	17	24	-1	62	-2
	ROME	28	18	31	15	23	-1.1	28	-1
	NAPLES	29	20	35	15	24	-0.2	23	-17
GREECE	THESSALONIKA	31	22	37	18	26	0.6	11	-13
	LARISSA	33	19	38	15	26	0.4	16	-3
	ATHENS	33	24	39	22	28	0.5	0	-4
TURKEY	ISTANBUL	30	22	35	19	26	2	44	30
	ANKARA	32	15	37	11	23	2.8	6	-6
CYPRUS	LARNACA	33	23	35	20	28	0.4	0	***
ESTONI	TALLINN	20	13	26	9	17	1.1	117	41
RUSSIA	ST.PETERSBURG	22	15	28	11	18	1.8	58	-15
LITHUA	KAUNAS	22	12	28	7	17	0.4	134	69
BELARU	MINSK	22	13	27	9	18	0.7	169	108
RUSSIA	KAZAN	23	13	28	5	18	1.1	21	-42
	MOSCOW	23	12	29	7	18	1.2	29	-50
	YEKATERINBURG	21	12	30	6	17	1.3	86	18
	OMSK	22	13	31	7	17	0.7	46	-9
KAZAKH	KUSTANAY	23	13	34	5	18	-0.3	85	50
RUSSIA	BARNAUL	24	13	33	4	19	1.6	74	21
	KHABAROVSK	26	16	33	5	21	1.1	96	-52
	VLADIVOSTOK	24	18	29	14	21	1.3	168	16
UKRAIN	KIEV	25	16	35	12	20	1.5	87	30
	LVOV	22	14	27	8	18	0.9	76	5
	KIROVOGRAD	27	15	33	9	21	1.1	52	-2
	ODESSA	27	19	33	14	23	1.6	90	57
RUSSIA	SARATOV	26	16	33	8	21	2.2	27	-9
UKRAIN	KHARKOV	27	16	33	11	21	1.7	42	-33
RUSSIA	VOLGOGRAD	29	16	35	8	23	1.4	17	-11

Based on Preliminary Reports

August 2005

COUNTRY	CITY	TEMPERATURE (C)						PRECIPITATION (MM)	
		AVG MAX	AVG MIN	HI MAX	LO MIN	AVG	DPART F/NRM	TOTAL	DPART F/NRM
	ASTRAKHAN	31	17	36	9	24	0.5	10	-12
	KRASNODAR	32	19	40	14	25	2.3	7	-22
	ORENBURG	27	13	35	6	20	0.3	13	-15
KAZAKH	TSELINOGRAD	23	13	32	3	18	-0.6	81	48
	KARAGANDA	23	12	31	6	17	-1.0	92	67
UZBEKI	TASHKENT	33	18	38	9	26	-0.2	2	1
TURKME	ASHKHABAD	36	21	42	15	29	-0.7	10	8
SYRIA	DAMASCUS	37	18	42	13	28	1.4	0	***
ISRAEL	JERUSALEM	30	20	36	18	25	2.1	0	***
PAKIST	KARACHI	32	27	34	25	29	0.3	5	-52
INDIA	AMRITSAR	34	25	37	20	30	0.2	114	-77
	NEW DELHI	36	27	38	22	32	1.7	133	-108
	AHMEDABAD	32	25	34	21	28	-0.1	152	-96
	INDORE	29	22	33	20	26	0.3	76	-235
	CALCUTTA	34	27	36	23	30	1.0	432	123
	VERAVAL	30	26	32	25	28	0.3	74	-69
	BOMBAY	30	25	32	24	28	0.2	310	-182
	POONA	27	22	32	19	24	-0.1	178	54
	BEGAMPET	30	23	34	22	27	0.5	125	-63
	VISHAKHAPATNAM	32	27	35	25	29	0.4	55	-82
	MADRAS	36	27	39	24	31	1.4	67	-80
	MANGALORE	30	23	32	22	26	0.4	579	-54
HONGKO	HONG KONG INT	32	27	35	24	30	0.6	701	320
N KORE	PYONGYANG	28	22	34	15	25	0.2	266	71
S KORE	SEOUL	29	23	35	17	26	-0.3	290	-84
JAPAN	SAPPORO	28	21	32	15	24	2.1	118	-21
	NAGOYA	33	25	37	20	29	1.5	86	-55
	TOKYO	32	25	36	22	29	1.5	193	37
	YOKOHAMA	31	25	35	22	28	0.7	241	79
	KYOTO	33	25	37	20	29	0.2	104	-29
	OSAKA	33	26	37	23	30	0.9	80	-25
THAILA	PHITSANULOK	33	25	35	24	29	0.0	169	-86
	BANGKOK	33	27	37	25	30	1.0	139	-77
MALAYS	KUALA LUMPUR	32	24	35	22	28	1.2	126	-19
VIETNA	HANOI	33	27	36	25	30	0.0	371	74
CHINA	HARBIN	27	18	32	12	23	1.1	66	-43
	HAMI	33	18	39	12	26	1.1	7	2
	LANCHOW	***	***	28	28	***	***	***	***
	BEIJING	30	22	35	18	26	1.3	124	-36
	TIENTSIN	30	22	35	17	26	0.1	207	55
	LHASA	22	12	26	9	17	2.0	160	36
	KUNMING	25	18	30	16	21	1.6	242	40
	CHENGCHOW	29	22	36	17	26	0.1	120	12
	YEHCHANG	30	23	38	17	26	-1.2	251	72
	HANKOW	31	25	39	19	28	-1.1	93	-14
	CHUNGKING	30	23	38	19	27	-1.8	229	102
	CHIHKIANG	31	22	38	17	27	-0.3	105	0
	WU HU	31	24	37	20	28	-0.8	117	-2
	SHANGHAI	32	26	37	22	29	0.9	309	164
	NANCHANG	32	26	36	21	29	0.1	46	-78
	TAIPEI	33	27	36	25	30	0.4	718	407
	CANTON	33	26	37	23	29	0.6	380	163
	NANNING	33	25	36	23	29	0.4	122	-86
CANARY	LAS PALMAS	27	22	29	20	25	0.5	7	***
MOROCC	CASABLANCA	27	22	29	19	24	1.4	0	-1
	MARRAKECH	38	22	44	17	30	2.2	4	2
ALGERI	ALGER	32	18	40	12	25	0.2	0	-7
	BATNA	34	17	43	10	26	0.3	29	12
TUNISI	TUNIS	33	23	42	20	28	0.3	23	15
NIGER	NIAMEY	33	24	36	20	29	0.6	157	-33
MALI	TIMBUKTU	37	27	41	21	32	1.0	64	-15
	BAMAKO	31	22	33	21	27	0.9	338	36
MAURIT	NOUAKCHOTT	32	26	38	21	29	1.2	105	57
SENEGA	DAKAR	31	26	32	23	28	1.1	355	139
LIBYA	TRIPOLI	36	24	44	19	30	3.6	3	***
	BENGHAZI	32	22	37	20	27	0.2	0	***
EGYPT	CAIRO	35	24	38	22	29	1.2	0	***
	ASWAN	43	29	45	26	36	2.4	0	0
ETHIOP	ADDIS ABABA	***	***	22	11	***	***	***	***
KENYA	NAIROBI	23	13	28	8	18	0.5	1	-15
TANZAN	DAR ES SALAAM	29	18	32	15	24	0.3	14	-14
GABON	LIBREVILLE	***	***	28	20	***	***	***	***
TOGO	LOME	28	23	31	22	26	0.6	61	34
BURKIN	OUAGADOUGOU	31	23	34	20	27	0.2	244	2
COTE D	ABIDJAN	28	22	30	21	25	0.7	7	-34

COUNTRY	CITY	TEMPERATURE (C)						PRECIPITATION (MM)	
		AVG MAX	AVG MIN	HI MAX	LO MIN	AVG	DPART F/NRM	TOTAL	DPART F/NRM
MOZAMB	MAPUTO	28	17	36	12	22	2.0	0	-13
ZAMBIA	LUSAKA	28	***	31	8	***	***	0	0
ZIMBAB	KADOMA	29	12	33	7	20	0.4	0	-1
S AFRI	PRETORIA	***	***	30	5	***	***	***	***
	JOHANNESBURG	22	8	26	4	15	2.4	0	-6
	BETHAL	23	6	27	0	15	2.7	30	22
	DURBAN	24	14	33	8	19	0.9	20	-39
	CAPE TOWN	16	8	19	2	12	-0.7	100	28
CANADA	TORONTO	28	17	34	13	23	2.7	136	56
	MONTREAL	27	17	32	8	22	2.1	134	40
	WINNIPEG	24	12	32	7	18	-0.4	58	-19
	REGINA	24	9	35	2	17	-1.4	64	20
	SASKATOON	22	9	31	2	15	-2.0	62	23
	LETHBRIDGE	23	8	32	2	16	-2.2	91	43
	CALGARY	20	7	32	2	14	-1.9	98	39
	EDMONTON	21	10	30	4	15	-1.5	47	-15
	VANCOUVER	24	14	27	12	19	1.3	28	-11
MEXICO	GUADALAJARA	***	***	29	15	***	***	50	-161
	TLAXCALA	22	14	27	9	18	0.5	17	-143
	ORIZABA	25	18	30	14	22	1.7	239	-114
BERMUD	ST GEORGES	30	25	31	22	28	-0.2	224	93
BAHAMA	NASSAU	33	26	35	24	30	1.5	311	63
CUBA	HAVANA	32	24	34	22	28	0.9	72	-37
JAMAIC	KINGSTON	33	26	36	24	30	1.2	34	-44
P RICO	SAN JUAN	32	25	34	22	29	0.6	186	53
GUADEL	RAIZET	32	25	33	23	28	0.3	294	125
MARTIN	LAMENTIN	32	27	33	23	29	2.2	164	-67
BARBAD	BRIDGETOWN	31	26	32	24	29	0.9	162	16
TRINID	PORT OF SPAIN	33	24	34	23	28	1.5	169	-66
COLOMB	BOGOTA	18	9	21	4	13	0.3	48	8
VENEZU	CARACAS	33	27	35	25	30	2.5	23	-40
F GUIA	CAYENNE	32	23	33	21	27	1.0	186	21
BRAZIL	FORTALEZA	31	25	33	24	28	0.9	4	-6
	RECIFE	28	23	30	22	26	-0.4	210	55
	CAMPO GRANDE	33	20	37	6	26	2.8	10	-18
	FRANCA	27	16	32	9	22	1.1	1	-17
	RIO DE JANEIRO	29	19	37	15	24	2.5	5	-41
	LONDRINA	28	13	34	7	21	2.2	37	-26
	SANTA MARIA	23	13	32	4	18	1.8	82	-31
	TORRES	21	14	32	8	17	-1.4	208	67
PERU	LIMA	20	16	23	14	18	0.6	0	-3
BOLIVI	LA PAZ	15	-4	18	-7	5	-1.0	2	-24
CHILE	SANTIAGO	16	7	25	0	11	2.1	82	24
ARGENT	IGUAZU	26	13	33	2	19	0.9	28	-88
	FORMOSA	27	14	37	4	20	2.3	6	-56
	CERES	21	9	33	0	15	1.0	10	-8
	CORDOBA	19	7	29	-2	13	0.7	9	-3
	RIO CUARTO	17	5	24	-4	11	0.0	9	-9
	ROSARIO	18	7	25	-1	13	0.6	42	4
	BUENOS AIRES	16	8	24	0	12	0.7	151	99
	SANTA ROSA	16	4	22	-4	10	0.3	17	-9
	TRES ARROYOS	14	5	21	-2	9	0.5	39	-2
MARSHA	MAJURO	29	27	30	25	28	0.5	374	76
NEW CA	NOUMEA	23	17	24	15	20	-0.3	147	82
FIJI	NAUSORI	26	18	30	15	22	-0.4	101	-41
SAMOA	PAGO PAGO	29	25	31	23	27	0.6	297	134
TAHITI	PAPEETE	29	22	30	19	25	0.6	59	8
PNEWGU	PORT MORESBY	29	23	31	20	26	0.6	1	-25
NZEALA	AUCKLAND	16	8	18	3	12	***	37	***
	WELLINGTON	14	8	16	3	11	***	35	***
AUSTRA	DARWIN	31	21	33	18	26	-0.2	3	-5
	BRISBANE	21	10	24	6	16	-0.2	37	0
	PERTH	19	7	25	2	13	-0.2	129	12
	CEDUNA	19	8	27	0	14	1.0	58	25
	ADELAIDE	17	9	26	4	13	0.8	97	46
	MELBOURNE	15	7	22	0	11	1.0	66	21
	WAGGA	15	4	20	-2	10	0.5	56	4
	CANBERRA	14	1	20	-4	8	0.5	57	8
INDONE	SERANG	31	22	33	21	27	-0.4	30	-41
PHILIP	MANILA	31	26	33	23	28	0.0	256	-166

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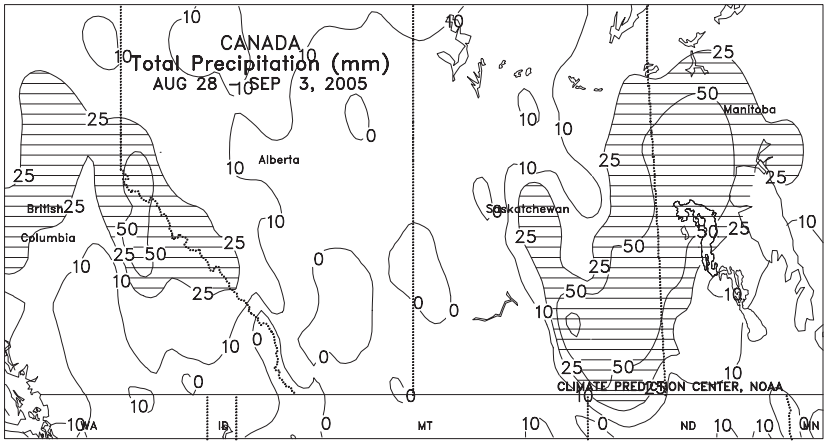
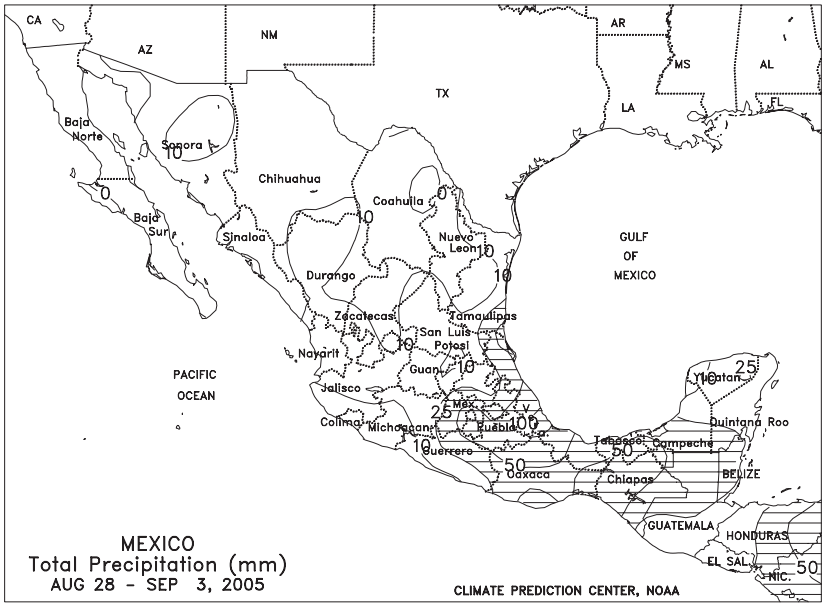


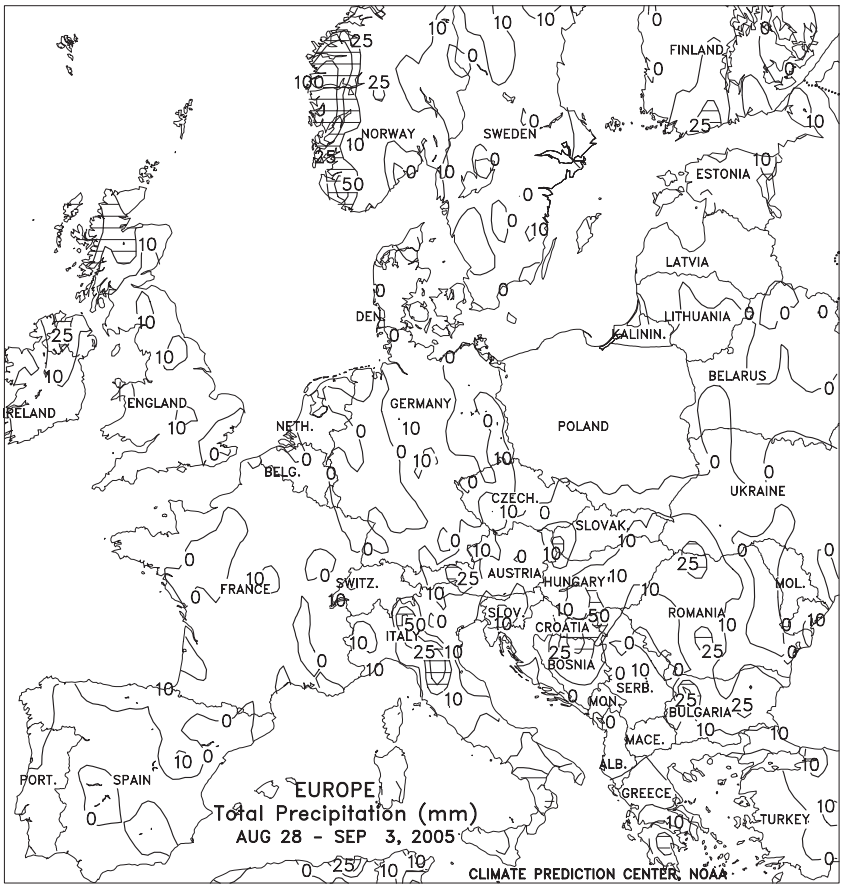
CANADA

Locally heavy showers (25-50 mm or more) swept rapidly across eastern Saskatchewan and western Manitoba, disrupting early harvesting of spring grains and oilseeds and raising concern for quality and potential damage from lodging. However, favorably drier weather dominated western Prairie growing areas, and near- to above-normal temperatures (highs reaching the lower and middle 30s degrees C) helped to advance Prairie spring grains and oilseeds towards maturity. Cooler weather returned to the Prairies after the passage of the rainy weather, with night-time lows falling below 5 degrees C over much of the east. However, the Prairies have yet to experience a widespread freeze. In eastern Canada, locally heavy showers (25-50 mm or more) from the remnants of Hurricane Katrina disrupted haying and other autumn fieldwork in Quebec and eastern growing areas of Ontario. Warm, mostly dry weather hastened development of corn and soybeans in southwestern Ontario.



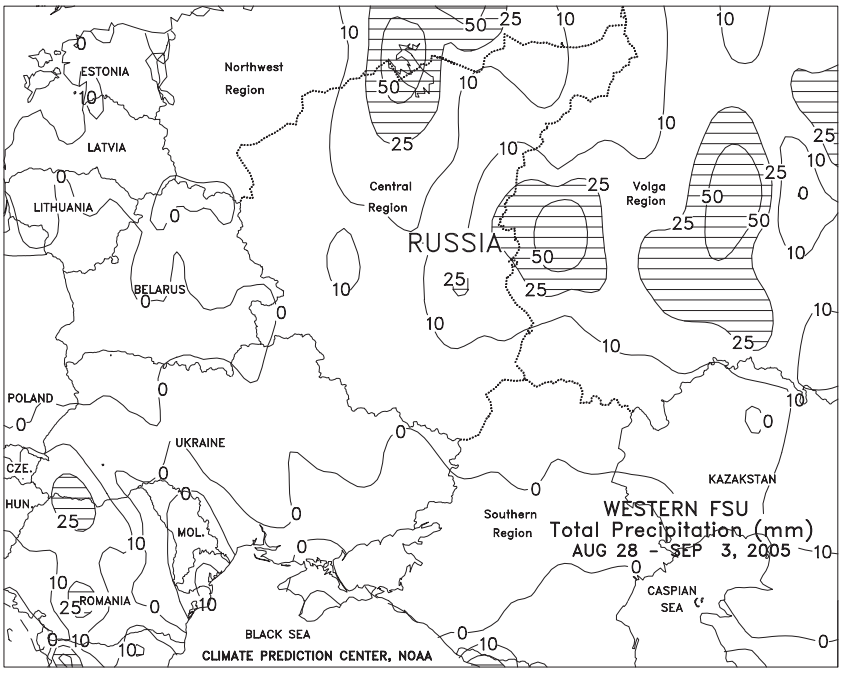
MEXICO

Scattered showers (10-50 mm or more) fell across the south, including the southern plateau, benefiting rainfed agriculture and helping to alleviate irrigation requirements of corn and other summer crops. Mostly dry weather continued in central and northern Mexico. Near- to above-normal temperatures maintained high crop moisture demands in most major agricultural areas.



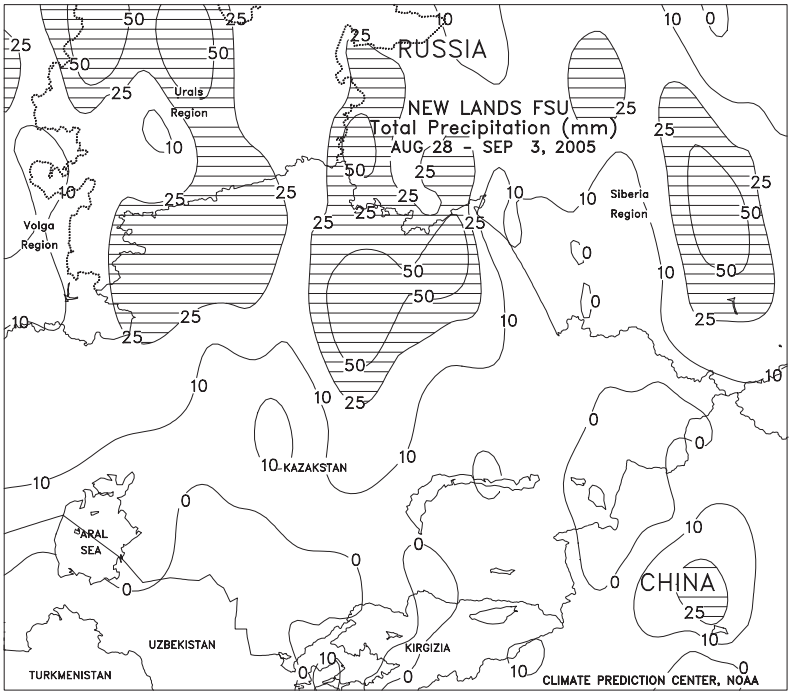
EUROPE

After several weeks of unfavorably wet weather, a large area of high pressure brought drier, warmer conditions to much of the continent. Welcome dryness across central and northern Europe allowed fieldwork to resume following several weeks of rain-induced harvest delays. In addition, above-normal temperatures (3-5 degrees C above normal) accelerated summer crops towards maturity. Farther west, hot (30 to 38 degrees C), dry weather increased stress on filling coarse grains in southwestern France and reduced already dismal summer crop prospects on the Iberian Peninsula. The climatological start of the rainy season in Spain and Portugal is October, with near- to above-normal rain over the ensuing months desperately needed to recharge parched topsoils and near-empty reservoirs. Despite the generally dry weather pattern, isolated light to moderate showers (10-50 mm) in northern Italy boosted moisture supplies for filling corn. Elsewhere, scattered light showers (2-10 mm) in the Balkans allowed floodwaters to recede and promoted summer crop development, although pockets of locally heavy showers (30-50 mm) caused additional fieldwork delays.



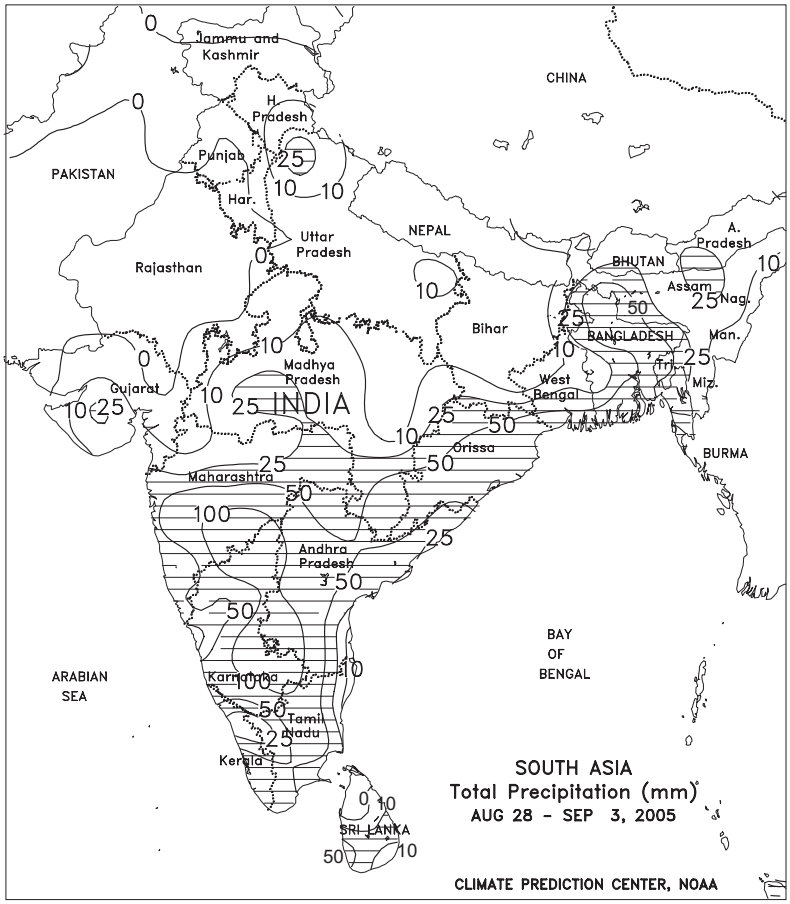
FSU-WESTERN

In Russia, winter and spring grain harvesting was well underway in the north and virtually completed in southern areas. Furthermore, winter grain planting was underway in northern Russia, where the optimum time for planting crops is late August. A weak frontal boundary produced light to moderate showers (3-25 mm or more) across northern Russia (Central and Volga Regions), causing some interruptions in fieldwork, but providing topsoil moisture for winter grain germination and establishment. Reports from Russia as of August 30 indicated that spring grains and pulses, excluding corn, were 62 percent harvested. Farther south, the sixth consecutive week of dry weather across major corn and sunflower areas in the Southern Region stressed crops in the filling stage of development and accelerated crop development. Weekly temperatures averaged near normal in most areas. In Ukraine, mostly dry weather helped fieldwork in preparation for planting the 2006 winter grain crop, but continued to lower soil moisture for summer crop development, particularly in eastern areas. Typically, winter wheat planting begins in northern Ukraine in early September and progresses southward during the month. Weekly temperatures averaged near normal in Ukraine, spurring summer crop development. Elsewhere, dry weather helped fieldwork in Belarus, where reports as of August 30 indicated the grain harvest was 96 percent complete. Weekly temperatures averaged near normal in Belarus.



FSU-NEW LANDS

In Russia, periodic showers (7-25 mm or more) from the Urals Region eastward into Siberia favored immature crops but slowed early harvest activities. Weekly temperatures averaged near to slightly above normal in Russia. In Kazakstan, frequent showers (10-50 mm or more) and cool weather (weekly temperatures averaging near to slightly below normal) continued to prevail in principal spring grain areas in north-central Kazakstan, interrupting early harvest activities. In cotton growing areas of Central Asia, below-normal temperatures (1 to 3 degrees C below normal) slowed boll maturation.

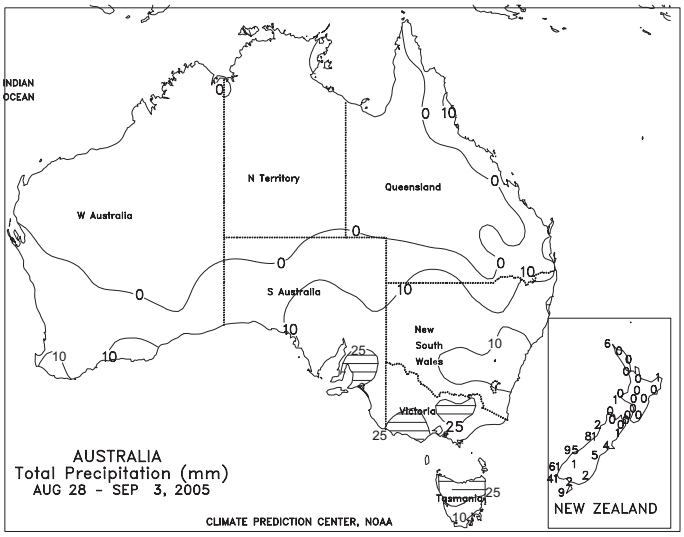


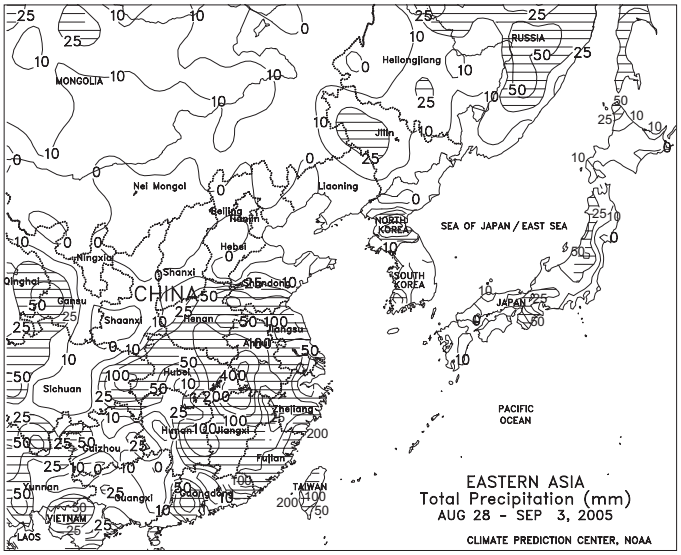
SOUTH ASIA

Dry weather lingered across northern growing areas as the monsoon retreated into eastern and southern India. Following above-normal rainfall during much of the monsoon season, recent dryness across northern India increased irrigation demands and depleted topsoil moisture reserves for vegetative to reproductive summer crops. In particular, little if any precipitation has fallen in Gujarat, Rajasthan, Punjab, and Haryana since the beginning of August; typically, the monsoon withdraws from northwestern India during the first 2 weeks of September. Farther east, light to moderate showers (7-58 mm) in Bangladesh and eastern India maintained adequate moisture for main-season rice. Across southern India, widespread, locally heavy rain (10-135 mm) improved prospects for vegetative cotton and groundnuts. In Pakistan, dry, hot (38-42 degrees C) weather promoted rice and cotton development in northern growing areas but maintained high irrigation requirements in southern Pakistan.

AUSTRALIA

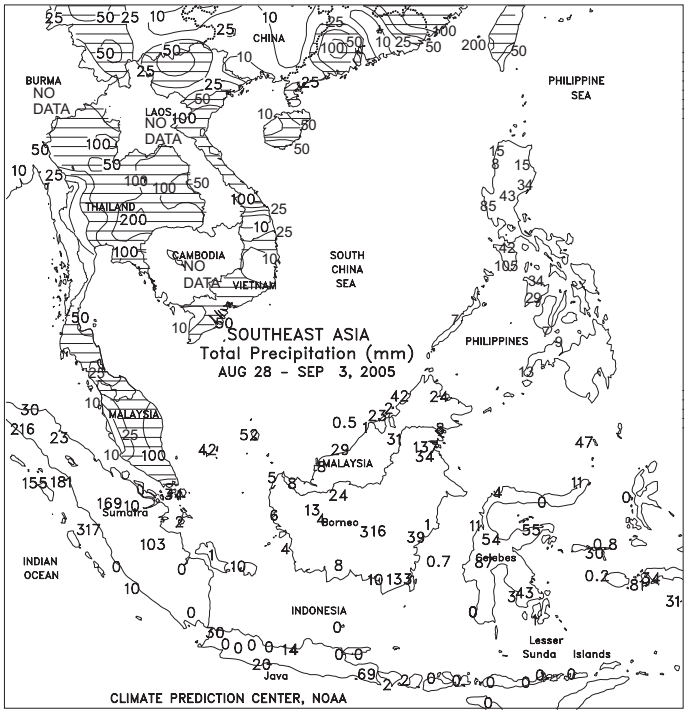
Widespread showers across much of southern Australia contrasted with lingering dryness in Queensland. In Western Australia, scattered showers (2-17 mm) maintained adequate moisture supplies for jointing winter wheat and barley, although cool weather (1-2 degree C below normal) slowed crop development. Meanwhile, locally heavy rain (20-50 mm) in South Australia and Victoria eased short-term dryness, improving prospects for vegetative winter grains. Farther east, beneficial showers (2-20 mm) in New South Wales contrasted with unfavorably dry, warm (2-4 degrees C above normal) weather in winter grain areas of southern Queensland.





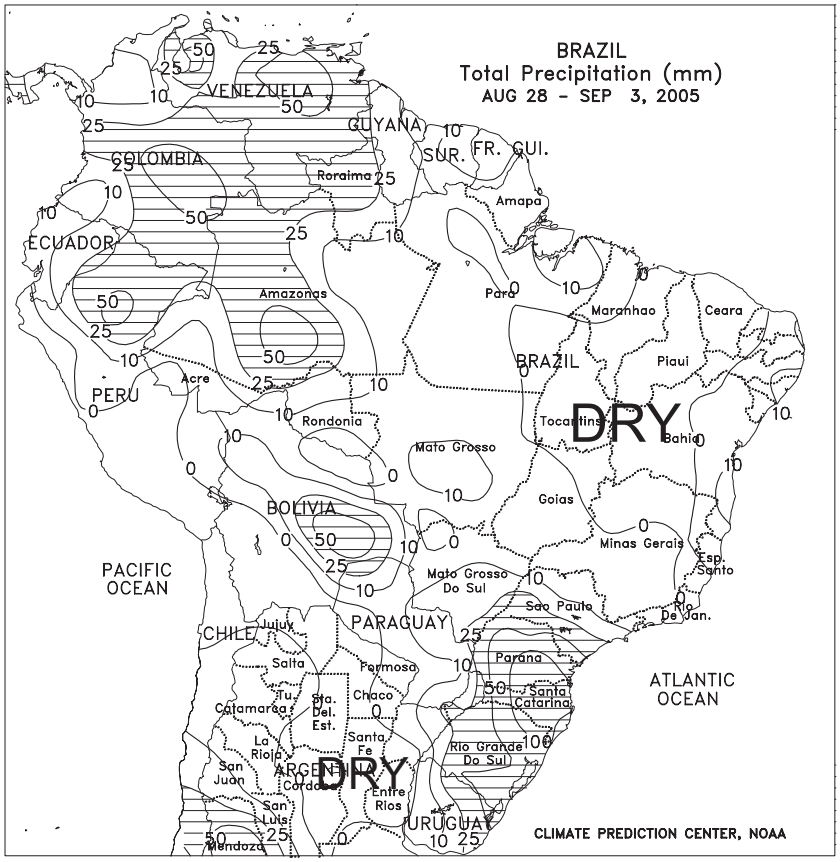
EASTERN ASIA

Typhoon Talim made landfall in Fujian province along the southeast coast of China late in the week. The storm brought heavy rain (50-200 mm, locally more) and caused flooding from the coast to the lower Yangtze Valley and into southern portions of the North China Plain. The wet conditions were especially detrimental to cotton, likely damaging open bolls. Cool (1 to 5 degrees C below normal), wet (10-50 mm) weather prevailed in Manchuria, slowing maturation and drydown of corn and soybeans. Elsewhere, scattered showers (10-25 mm) prevailed on the Korean Peninsula and in Japan as Typhoon Nabi approached the Yellow Sea.



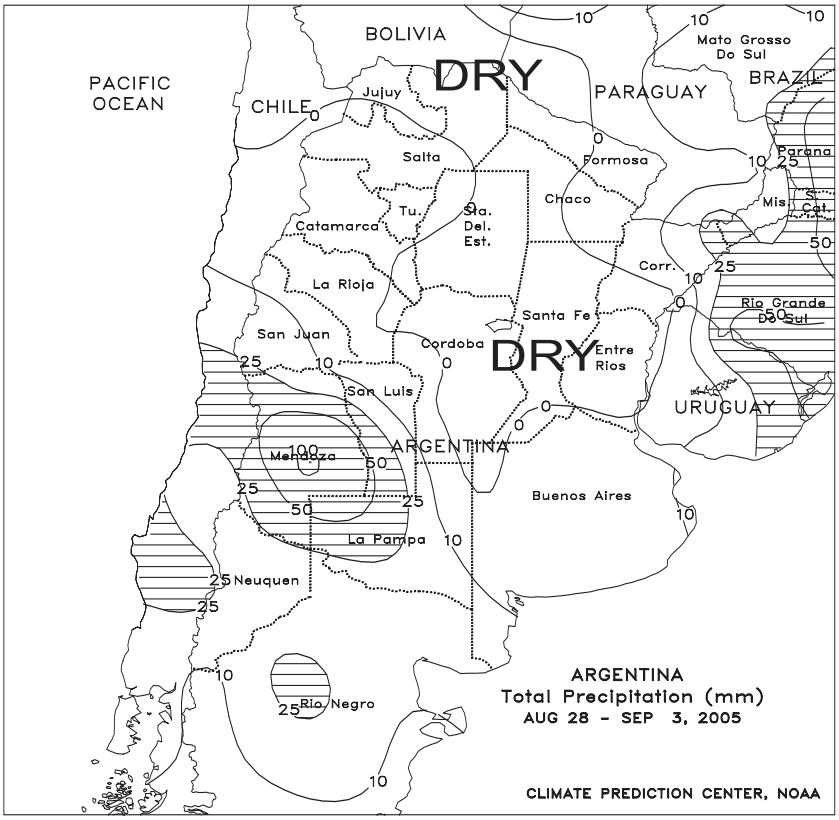
SOUTHEAST ASIA

Widespread monsoon showers (25-100 mm or more) slowed corn maturation, but benefited reproductive rice. In Vietnam, widespread showers (25-100 mm) supplemented irrigation supplies for 10th month rice but likely caused flooding in coffee areas of the central highlands. Monsoon showers (25-100 mm) covered the Philippines, keeping moisture levels high for rice and corn. Heavy showers (50-200 mm) boosted moisture supplies for oil palm in Sumatra and Malaysia, but likely disrupted harvest activities.



BRAZIL

Dry weather continued to dominate major coffee areas of Brazil's center-west, including most growing areas along the eastern coast. According to independent analyst Safras e Mercado, 2004/05 coffee was 91 percent harvested as of August 29, compared with 85 percent last season. Dry weather also promoted fieldwork in coastal sugarcane and cocoa areas. In contrast, locally heavy showers (10-50 mm, locally exceeding 100 mm) fell throughout the southern winter wheat belt, including the more northerly growing areas of Parana. The moisture benefited immature crops, especially in Rio Grande do Sul where crops were in the heading and early filling stages of development. Crops grown farther north are likely nearing maturity, but the heaviest rain (greater than 100 mm) fell outside of the main growing areas, limiting the potential for significant harvest problems due to lodging.



ARGENTINA

After last week's beneficial rainfall, cool, dry weather dominated the main growing areas of central and northern Argentina. Temperatures averaging 1 to 3 degrees C below normal slowed germination and early growth of winter wheat across central Argentina, and lows fell below freezing over much of Cordoba, La Pampa, and Buenos Aires. Elsewhere, cool, dry weather also slowed germination of early sown sunflowers and corn, and a killing freeze (temperatures as low as -2 degrees C) in Chaco and Santiago del Estero may necessitate some replanting of sunflowers. According to Argentina's Agricultural Secretariat (SAGPyA), winter wheat planting was virtually complete. SAGPyA also indicated in its September 1 report that corn planting is making good early progress in Santa Fe and Entre Rios, but drier conditions were hindering fieldwork to the north and west.